白の皇国物語 第三十六回
原作：白沢戌亥　漫画：木二まーゆ
THE REGENT'S ORDER TO DEFEAT THE EMPIRE RESOUNDED NOT ONLY IN THE FORTRESS, BUT THE ENTIRE MILITARY.

WHILE SOME WERE PERPLEXED BY THE SUDDEN CHANGE IN POLICY,

SHOULD THE KINGDOM SHOW ANY SIGNS OF ATTEMPTING TO BACK OFF BECAUSE OF INTERNAL STRIFE, THE EMPIRE WOULD EAGERLY STRENGTHEN THEIR ASSAULT.
AS THEY LEARNED OF THE KINGDOM'S CURRENT SITUATION, THEY CHANGED THEIR MINDS.

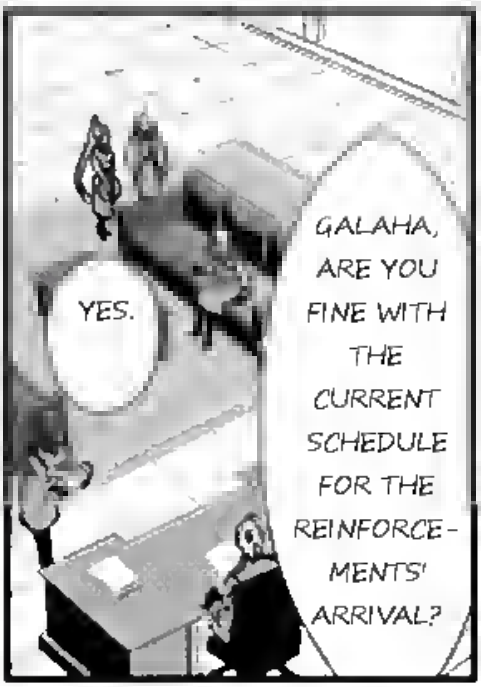
IN ORDER TO NOT BE SO RELIANT ON YOUR HIGHNESS' POWER, THE PETTY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN REQUESTING REINFORCEMENTS THROUGH PROPER CHANNELS.
HAVING NOT NOTICED THE EMPIRE'S MOVEMENT, GALAHA AIMED TO MAKE A COMEBACK FOR THE SAKE OF THE ARMY.
THERE IS NOTHING LESS USEFUL THAN AN ARMY THAT DOESN'T TRUST ITS RULER, IT OBVIOUSLY LOWERS MORALE.
I SIMPLE WISHED TO INFORM YOUR HIGHNESS OF WHAT FOOLS WE ARE.
UNDERSTANDING WHAT HE MEANT BY IT, GENERAL OF THE ARMY GERMAX DECIDED TO SEND EVEN AN ELITE DIVISION.
GALAHA INCLUDED THIS THOUGHT IN THIS REQUEST FOR REINFORCE-MENTS.

WITH A TOTAL MANPOWER OF 50,000, THESE 3 DIVISIONS WERE THE LARGEST FORCE THAT COULD BE FIELDED WITHOUT AFFECTING NATIONAL DEFENSE.
THE REINFORCEMENTS INCLUDED 2 NORMAL DIVISIONS OF 20,000 SOLDIERS, JOINED BY THE CENTRAL ARMY'S MECHANIZED DRAGON DIVISION, CONSISTING OF AUTOMATA AND EARTH DRAGONS.
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ABOUT 400 YEARS, THE KINGDOM IS MOVING TO PROTECT ITSELF.

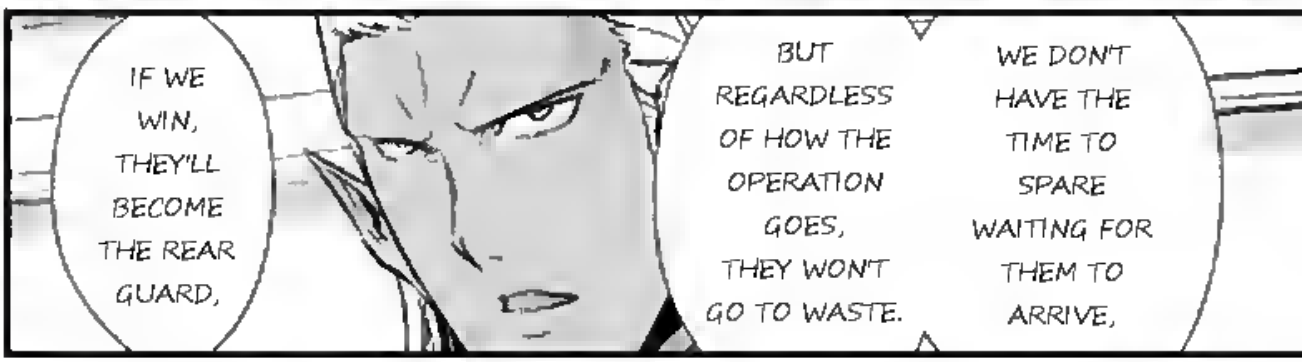
I GUESS THAT'S JUST HOW IT WORKS.
IN THE END, WE'RE ONLY ABLE TO ACT FOR THE SAKE OF PEACE...
I'VE NEVER FOUGHT, SO THAT WORD IS ALL I CAN REALLY UNDERSTAND.
FOR EXAMPLE, A CERTAIN NATION MIGHT VIEW THIS AS A CRUEL DEMONIC KING ABUSING HIS POWER TO OPPRESS PEOPLE, SEEK OUT WOMEN, AND AMASS A FORTUNE.
"GOOD" AND "EVIL" DON'T HOLD MUCH MEANING IN A CONFLICT BETWEEN COUNTRIES.
NO, THERE'S OTHER WAYS OF VIEWING THIS,
THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT.
TRUE, BUT THAT PEACE...

GOOD AND EVIL, HUH...
TRIUMPHING OVER MY OPPONENT'S CAUSE MAKES ME JUST, BUT LOSING MEANS I'M EVIL, THAT'S ALL IT COMES DOWN TO...
WHAT DO YOU PERCEIVE AS GOOD AND EVIL, YOUR HIGHNESS?
INDEED, THE IDEA OF BEING JUST IS MERELY ANOTHER WEAPON IN A WAR.
EXCUSE ME, YOUR HIGHNESS.
見都国 ARE JUST CONVENIENT ILLUSIONS FOR THE PEOPLE... をって
AND I, THE DAUGHTER OF THAT HERO,
BOTH MY FATHER, CELEBRATED AS A HERO,

HERE, SIR GALAHA.


GALAHA, ARE YOU FINE WITH THE CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR THE REINFORCE-MENTS' ARRIVAL?
YES.

SO THE [WHITE] DRAGON PRINCESS AND HER SERVANT WERE HERE AS GUARDS TODAY...


IF WE WIN, THEY'LL BECOME THE REAR GUARD,
BUT REGARDLESS OF HOW THE OPERATION GOES, THEY WON'T GO TO WASTE.
WE DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO SPARE WAITING FOR THEM TO ARRIVE,

THEY'LL GO TO VARMITT?

IF WE LOSE-

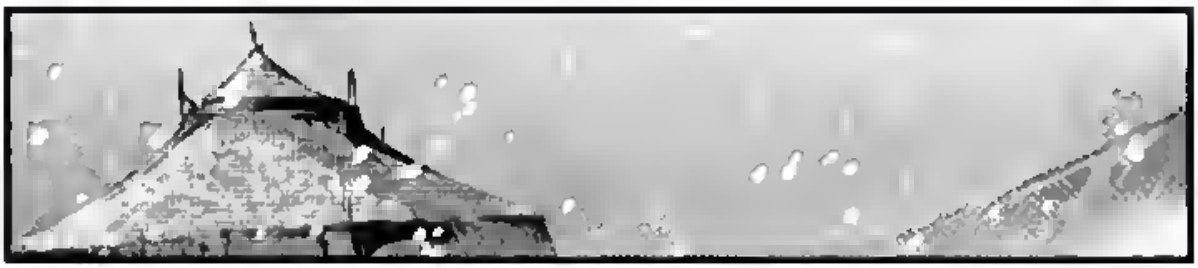
TAKING THE FORTRESS' DEFENSE INTO ACCOUNT, WE CAN ONLY SPARE 20,000 SOLDIERS TO DESTROY THAT CANNON,
THERE IS NO ROOM FOR MISTAKES.
HMM...
THEREFORE I BELIEVE I SHOULD LEAD THEM MYSELF.
A PROBLEM.
BUT THERE IS
以彼陥たあウ要
外を落つのィ蠢
HE IS THE ONLY ONE WE CAN TRUST TO TAKE WILMAGS AND THAT CANNON WITH A MERE 20,000 MEN.
だろう

THE EMPIRE MIGHT NOTICE THE ARMY'S MOVEMENTS AND MY ABSENCE IN THAT TIME.
EVEN IF THE ICE WOLVES GUIDE US, IT'LL STILL TAKE 2 DAYS TO PASS THROUGH THE WHITE WOLF MOUNTAINS.
INDEED, THAT IS WHY I CAME HERE.
TRUE, GLORIE IS PERCEPTIVE, WE'LL HAVE TO BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL.
I WOULD HAVE PREFERRED NOT BRINGING THIS UP AROUND THE WHITE DRAGON PRINCESS...

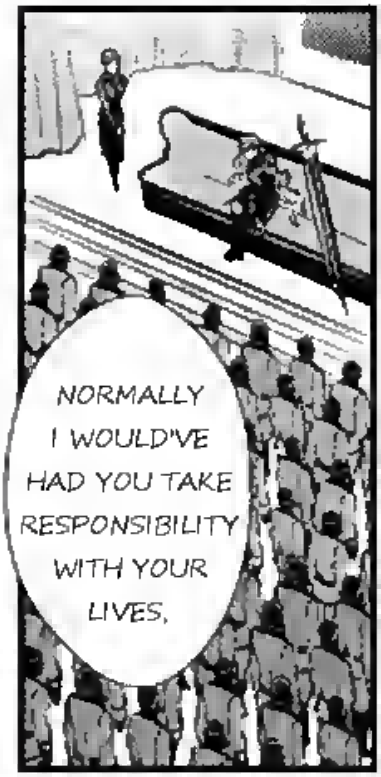
I WOULD LIKE YOUR HIGHNESS TO TAKE UP A POSITION IN FRONT OF THE FORTRESS AND PULL IN THE IMPERIAL ARMY.
HAHAHA!
A DIVERSION!
YOUR HIGH-NESS!
!

LEC-
CORRECTION:
YOUR HIGHNESS,
IF ANYTHING
HAPPENED TO YOU,
THE FORTRESS
WOULD BE THE
LEAST OF OUR
CONCERNS!
THIS IS NO
LAUGHING
MATTER!
THIS PLAN
WILL JUST LEAD
YOU TO YOUR
DEATH!
TRUE,
HOW
MANY
TIMES
HAS IT
BEEN?
DAMN IT,
GALAHA.
LECT!
HOW MANY
TIMES DO
I HAVE TO
SAY IT?!
YES,
THAT'S
TRUE,
BUT-
THIS ISN'T
LIKE THE
LAST
BATTLE!
A RULER
SHOULD TRUST
HIS GENERALS
AND USE THEM!
EVEN IF YOU'RE
SUCCESSFUL AT
ACTING LIKE A
GENERAL,
WHAT GOOD WILL IT
BE LATER ON?!
IT'S ONE THING
TO TALK TO
THE EMPIRE'S
PRINCESS,
BUT NOW
YOU'RE GOING
TO BE BAIT?!
……
ズズ…
HAVE YOU
CONSIDERED
THE PEOPLE?!
YOU WILL SOON
BECOME THE
KING AND BE
RESPONSIBLE
FOR THIS
COUNTRY!

.....
PERHAPS I SHOULD STEAL HER LIPS RIGHT HERE, SHE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SPEAK THEN.
LOOKING AT HER THIS CLOSE, HER BEAUTIFUL SKIN IS UNBLEMISHED, AND SHE LOOKS CUTE EVEN WHEN SHE'S MAD. YEAH, THIS IS PRETTY NICE.
YOUR HIGHNESS, ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?!
YOUR DUTY AS A RULER IS TO DEFEND THE COUNTRY, AND NOT JUST A SINGLE FORTRESS, IS IT NOT?!
I'M NOT TELLING YOU TO BE A COWARD, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T CONFUSE VALOR WITH RECKLESSNESS!
THE LECTURE CONTINUED INTO THE NIGHT, WITH VILIA AND RIEDE JOINING IN AS WELL. LECTIVAL MANAGED TO EVENTUALLY WIN THEM OVER BY LETTING THEM JOIN HIM.
こうして一側面をレクティバルはこれらの思考は世に
イファールであった作戦を
THESE THOUGHTS ARE A SIDE OF LECTIVAL THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY BE REMEMBERED AS LUST.



YOU LET THE KINGDOM'S SCOUT GET AWAY?


NORMALLY I WOULD'VE HAD YOU TAKE RESPONSIBILITY WITH YOUR LIVES.

WHAT WILL YOU DO ABOUT THAT?
THE KINGDOM HAS LIKELY LEARNED OF THUNDER NOW.

BUT NO MATTER.
ONCE WE TEST IT OUT, THUNDER WILL BE FUNCTIONAL.
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME UNTIL WE FINISH OFF THE KINGDOM.
VICTORY IS RIGHT BEFORE US!
JUST IN CASE, ALL 5000 PERSONNEL GUARDING WILMAGS ARE TO BE ON GUARD!

応!

ALRIGHT, GO RUN 100 LAPS! WARM UP YOUR BODIES!

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I CROSSED SWORDS WITH SOMEONE.
あ…
OH, THANK YOU.
ありがとうございます

OH DEAR, I THOUGHT OF WORKING ON MY CONCENTRATION FOR THE BATTLEFIELD,

THANKS FOR HELPING ME WITH TRAINING.

TRUE, AGAINST THAT WAR BLOSSOM PRINCESS, THE SLIGHTEST LAPSE IN CONCENTRATION COULD END IT ALL.
BUT IT'S SURPRISINGLY EASY TO LOSE FOCUS, I'LL NEED TO BE CAREFUL ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

THE ROYAL GUARDS SURE ARE GIVING IT
ANYWAYS, WE'VE BEEN TRAINING FOR 2 HOURS NOW, AND DOESN'T HAVE A BEAD OF SWEAT ON HIM...

I SUPPOSE IT MAKES SENSE FOR THE MAN BEHIND THE RECOVERY OF THE CAPITAL.
A WEAKLING CAN'T BE A ROYAL GUARD!
MOVE YOUR FEET!
YOU SURE ARE CALM,
THIS MUST BE ANOTHER OF THE SWORD'S POWERS...

BEHIND IT, HUH... WELL, THAT'S REALLY ALL I DID THOUGH.
BEING TOO HUMBLE CAN COME OFF AS AN INSULT. MERE DAYS AFTER BECOMING THE CROWN PRINCE, YOU MARCHED OFF TO BATTLE, THAT'S QUITE A LOT...
I'M NOT BEING HUMBLE, ALL I DID THERE WAS RIDE ON MERIELA'S BACK.
THE SOLDIERS DID ALL THE FIGHTING, THEY ALSO DID ALL THE DYING,
AND THE CIVILIANS SIMPLY GOT CAUGHT UP IN IT.

I THINK THERE WAS A STAFF OFFICER LIKE YOU BACK THERE.
MY OBJECTIVE BACK THEN WAS MADE INTO REALITY BY THE STAFF OFFICERS IN THE NOBLES' ARMIES.

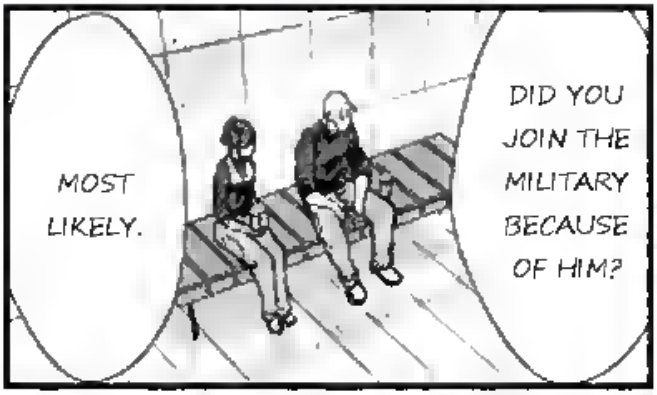
OVERESTIMATE US STAFF OFFICERS.
ズズ…

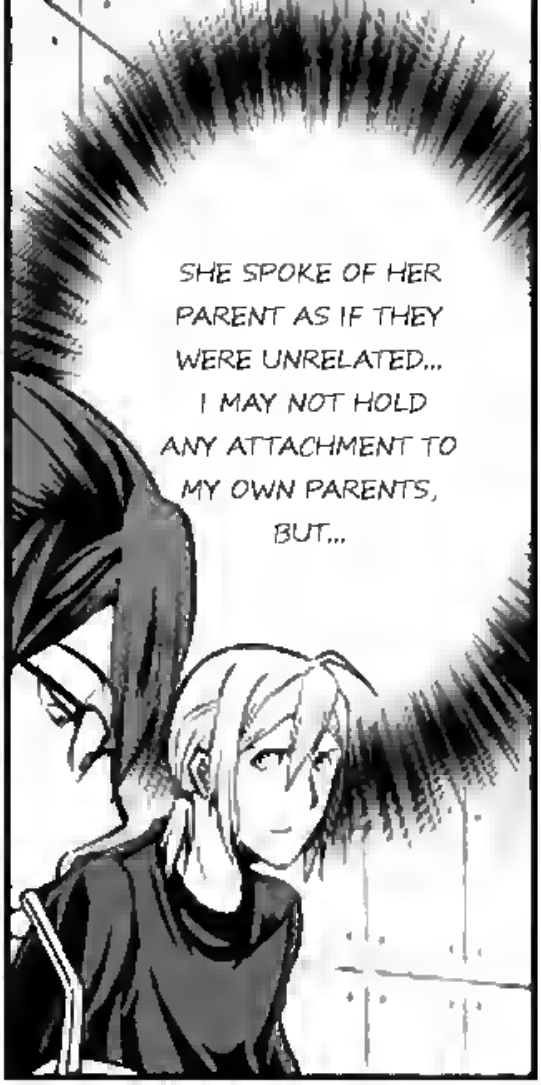
I BELIEVE YOUR FATHER WAS ALSO A STAFF OFFICER.
BY THE WAY,

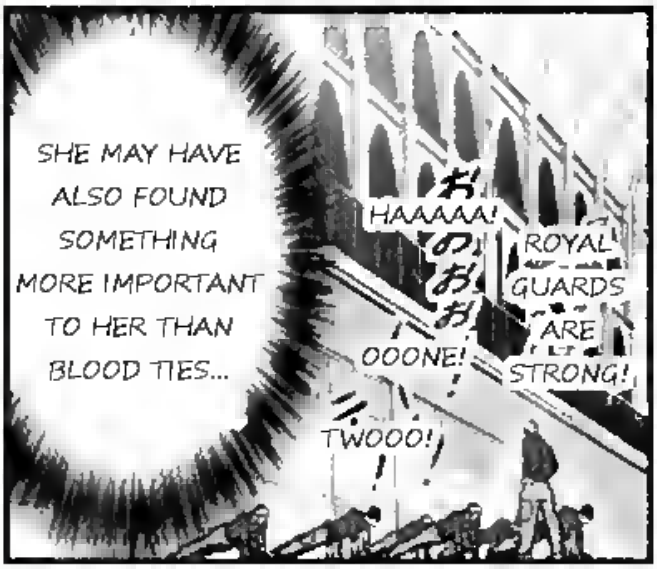
YOU

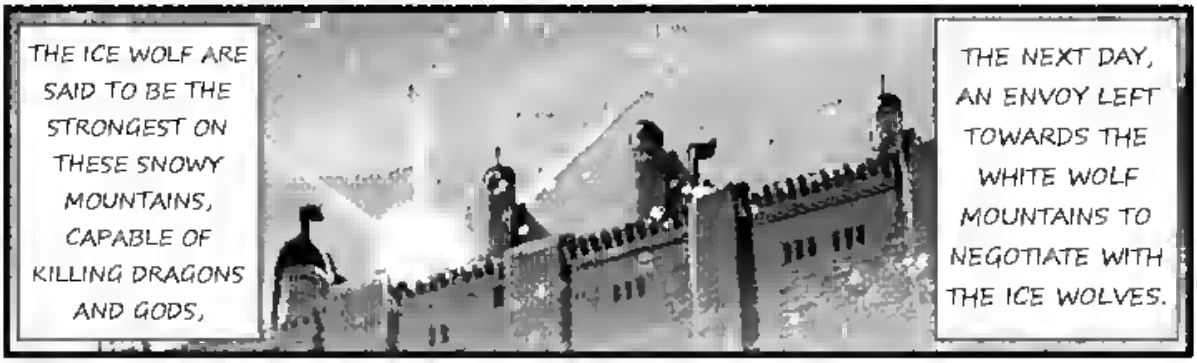
STAFF OFFICERS EXIST PURELY TO THINK ABOUT THINGS.
YES, AND HE'S ALREADY DIED FOR THE SAKE OF THE KINGDOM.

THIS PETTY OFFICIAL IS NO DIFFERENT FROM HER FATHER.
I HAVE NO AUTHORITY, SO I CAN JUST THINK TO MY HEART'S CONTENT AND SHOVE BOTH MY DECISION AND THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT ONTO A COMMANDING OFFICER.


MOST LIKELY.
DID YOU JOIN THE MILITARY BECAUSE OF HIM?


SHE SPOKE OF HER PARENT AS IF THEY WERE UNRELATED...
I MAY NOT HOLD ANY ATTACHMENT TO MY OWN PARENTS, BUT...


SHE MAY HAVE ALSO FOUND SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT TO HER THAN BLOOD TIES...
お HAAAAA!
のおお OOONE!
ROYAL GUARDS ARE STRONG!
TWOOO!


THE ICE WOLF ARE SAID TO BE THE STRONGEST ON THESE SNOWY MOUNTAINS, CAPABLE OF KILLING DRAGONS AND GODS,
THE NEXT DAY, AN ENVOY LEFT TOWARDS THE WHITE WOLF MOUNTAINS TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE ICE WOLVES.

THEIR HELP IS NECESSARY FOR THE 20,000 SOLDIERS TO SUCCESSFULLY CROSS THE MOUNTAINS.

WHAT DO THE KINGDOM'S SOLDIERS WANT?